

Office of Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch



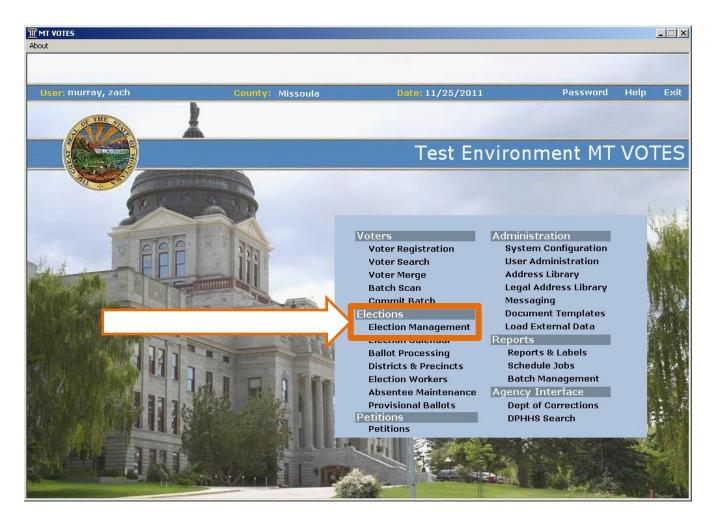
Election Management

Overview Of Topics Covered In This Training Guide

- Creating a New Election
- Adding Issues and Offices
- Generating Ballot Styles
- Printing Absentee and Mail Ballot Labels
- Generating Official Register
- Processing Mail Ballots
- Processing Official Register
- Closing an Election

Election Management

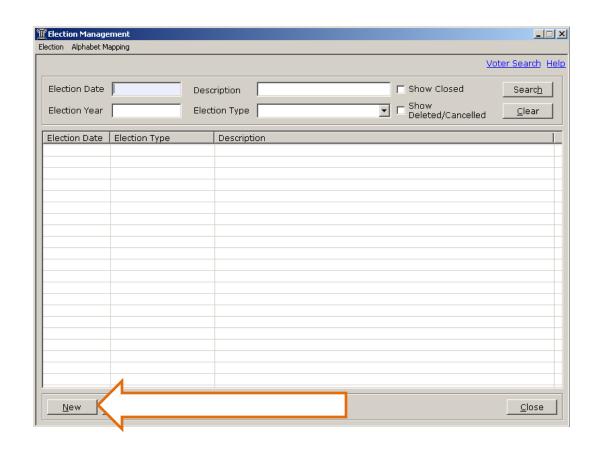
Election Management



Election Management-

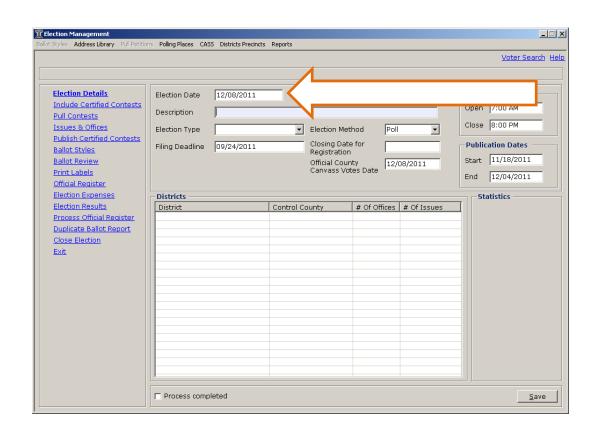
Creating a New Election

- <u>Election Management</u> is the first screen that will display.
- From this screen you can search on existing elections.
- For existing elections you can view election <u>Details</u>, <u>Delete</u> an election, or <u>Cancel</u> an election.
- Click <u>New</u> to create a new election.



Election Date

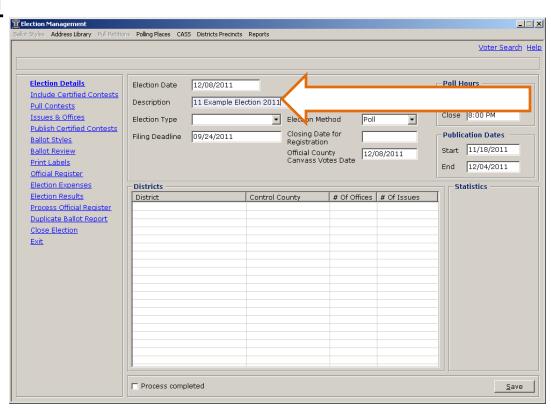
 Enter <u>Election Date</u> in MM/DD/YYYY fashion.



Election Description

Enter in an <u>Election</u>
 <u>Description</u> using standard election naming conventions.

i.e., County Code (same as used on license plates),
Type of Election, year of Election

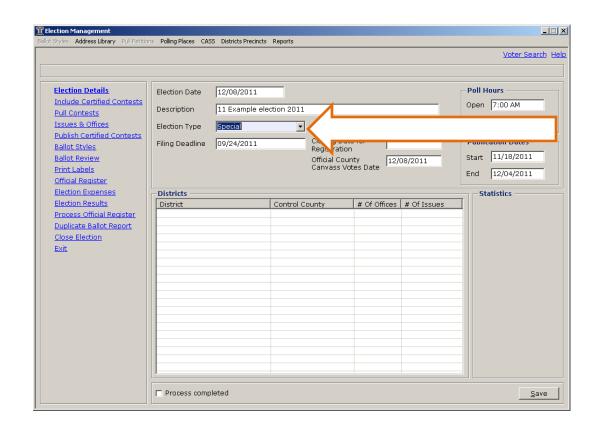


Example:

11 Municipal General 2011

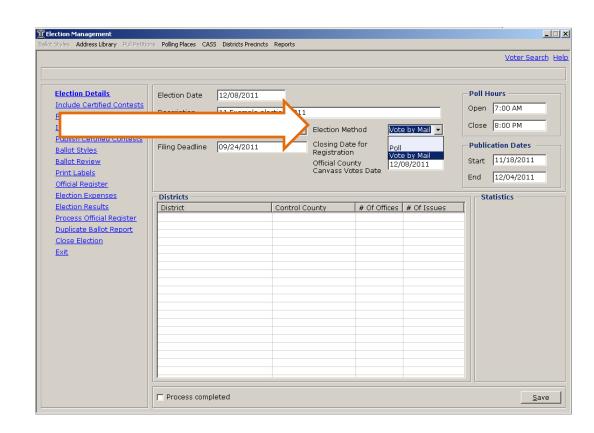
Election Type

Select an <u>Election</u>
 <u>Type</u> from the dropdown box.



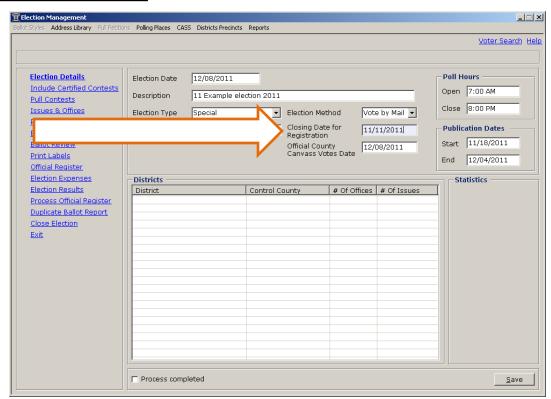
Election Method

Select an <u>Election</u>
 <u>Method</u> from the dropdown box.



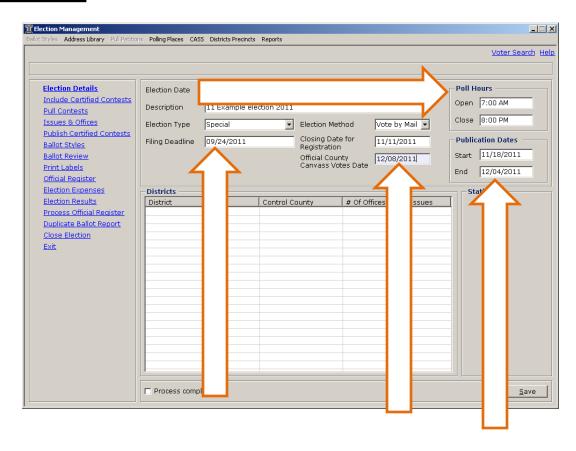
Closing Date for Registration

 Enter the <u>Closing Date</u> for <u>Registration</u> in MM/DD/YY format.



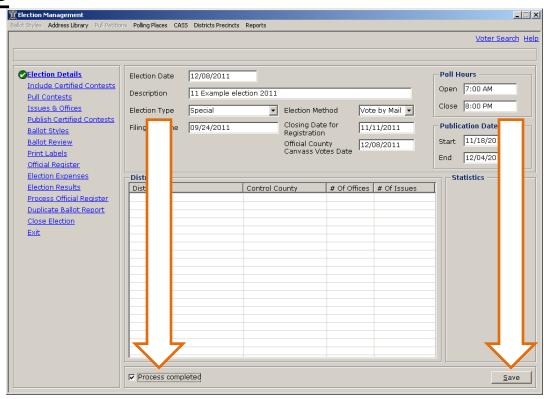
System Populated Dates

- Verify that all system populated dates are showing correctly.
- Fields to verify:
 - Filing Deadline
 - Official County
 Canvass Votes Date
 - Poll Hours
 - Publication dates



Save Election Details

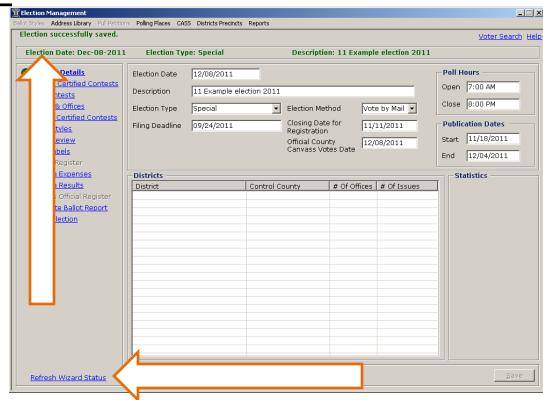
- Verify that you have entered in all of the Election Details
- Check the <u>Process</u>
 <u>Completed</u> box.
 - A green checkmark will display next to election detail to indicate it is completed.
- Click the **Save** button.



Save Election Details

- A message will display to confirm that the election has been saved.
- Election Details will now show at the top of the screen.
- Click

Refresh Wizard Status



Helpful Hint-

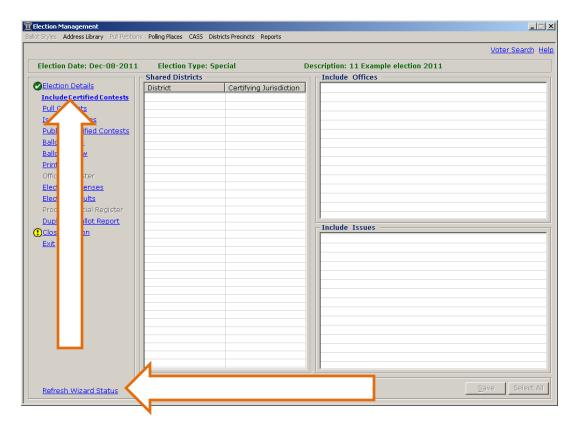
Any time Process Completed has been checked,
 Always click Refresh Wizard Status for an updated view of what has been accomplished.

Include Certified Contests

Include Certified Contests—

Overview

- The <u>Include Certified</u>
 <u>Contests</u> screen
 allows you to accept
 shared contests from
 either the State or
 other counties.
- E.G., President or Governor contests.
- If contests are available you can click on them and click
 Save to bring them into your election.



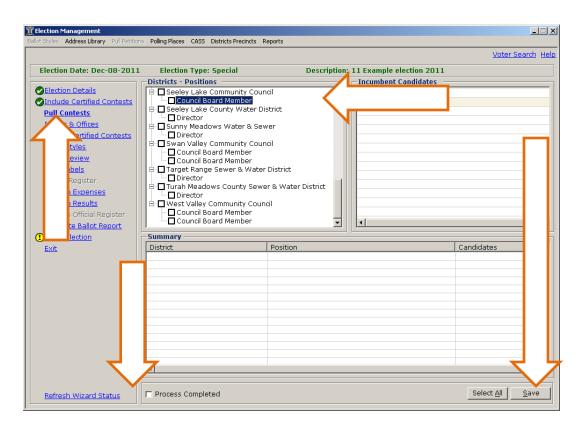
- Click <u>Process Completed</u> when finished with this screen.
- Refresh Wizard Status

Pull Contests

Pull Contests—

Overview

- The <u>Pull Contests</u>
 screen will display a
 list of available
 contests that have
 been setup with your
 Districts and
 Precincts.
- Check the box next to the desired Positions and click Save to pull them into your election.

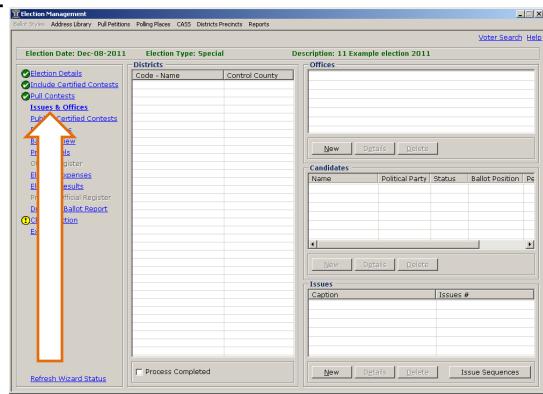


- Click <u>Process Completed</u> when finished with this screen.
- Refresh Wizard Status

Creating New Office

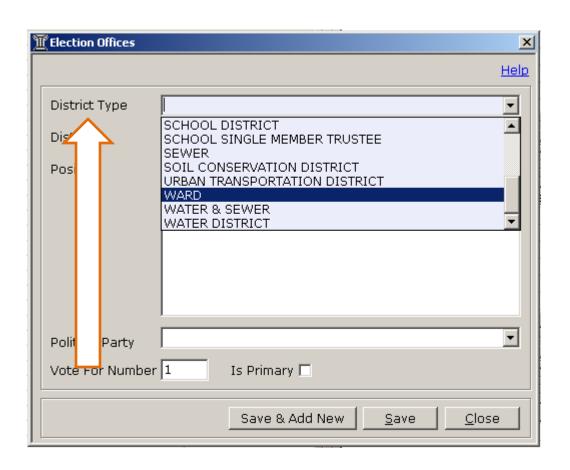
 If your election includes contests or issues that were not able to be pulled into your election from earlier steps you will have to enter them manually.

Click New to begin.



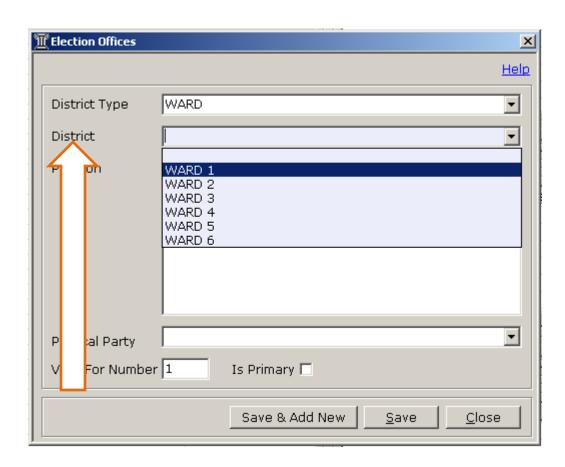
Election Offices

Select the <u>District</u>
 <u>Type</u> from the
 Dropdown box.



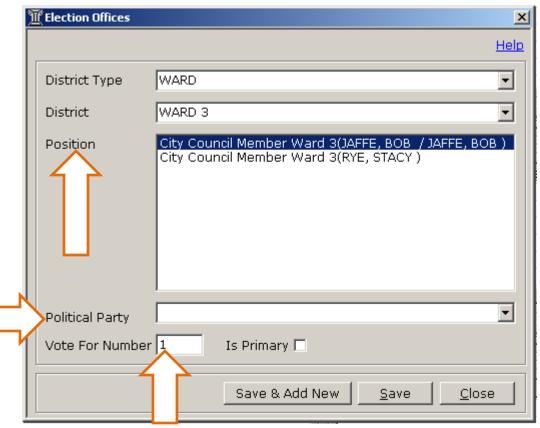
Election Offices

- Select the desired <u>District</u> from the Dropdown box.
- Verify that you have selected the correct District Type if the district you need is not showing.



Election Offices

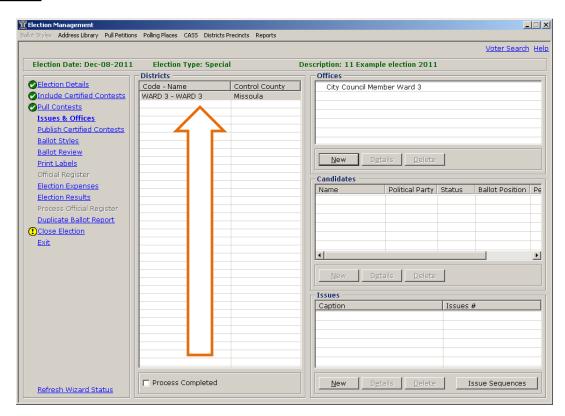
- Available Positions within the selected district will be displayed.
- Choose which position you are including in your election.
- Enter in the Political party and Voter For Number.
- Do not use the Is primary checkbox.



- Click Save to continue.
- Click Save & Add New to add in additional offices.

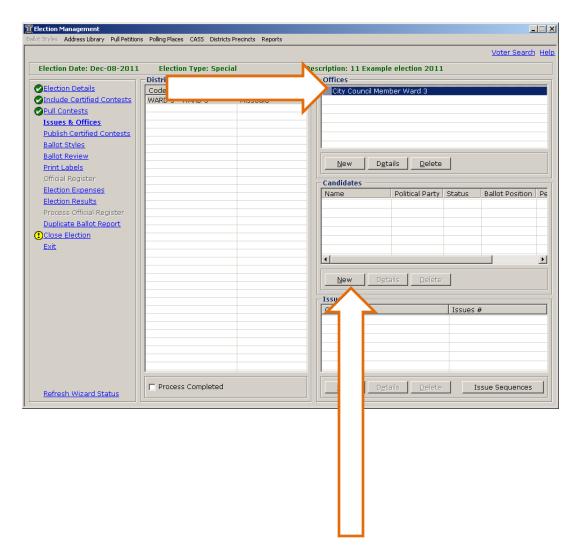
Creating New Offices

- Your new office will now display on the Issues & Offices screen.
- Repeat the previous steps to add in additional contests if needed.



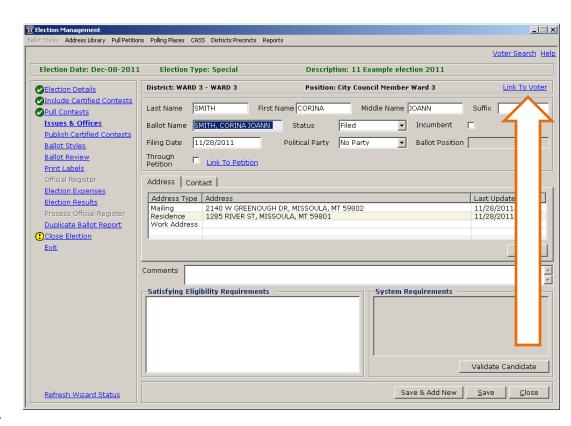
Adding Candidates

- Once your offices
 have been added, you
 can add in candidates
 as needed.
- Highlight the office you are adding a candidate to and click
 New under candidates to begin.



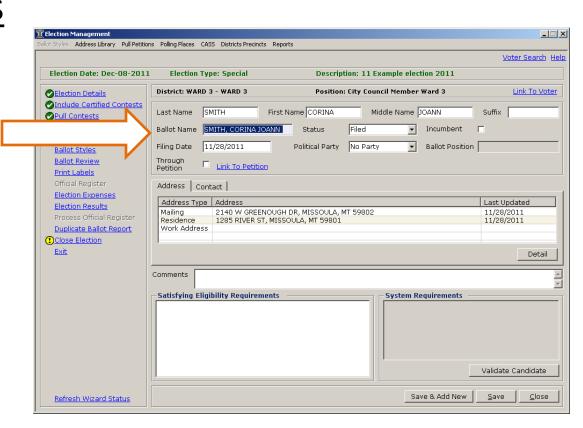
Adding Candidates

- On the following screen enter the candidates information and click Link to Voter.
- The candidates information will automatically populate if a matching voter record is found.



Adding Candidates

 If necessary, change Ballot Name, select Political Party, mark whether an incumbent and add contact information.



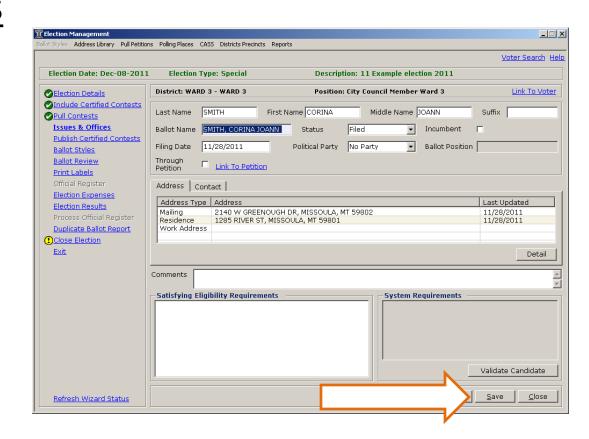
Validating Candidates

- To validate the candidate you will first need to check that they Satisfy Eligibility Requirements.
- System requirements will be checked automatically if the candidate qualifies.
- Click Validate
 Candidate



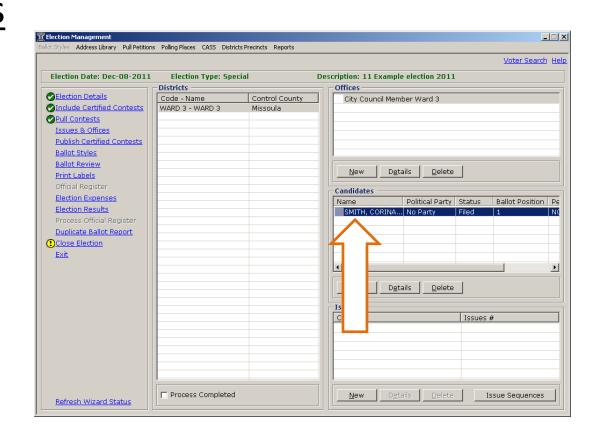
Adding Candidates

- Click Save to add the new candidate to your election.
- If you have multiple candidates to add click Save & New to reset the screen and add them.



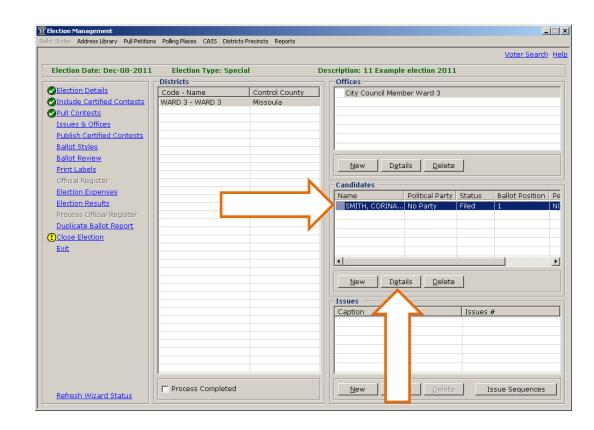
Adding Candidates

- The new candidate will now display for the selected office.
- Repeat the previous steps to add additional candidates if necessary.
- Candidates can now be certified.



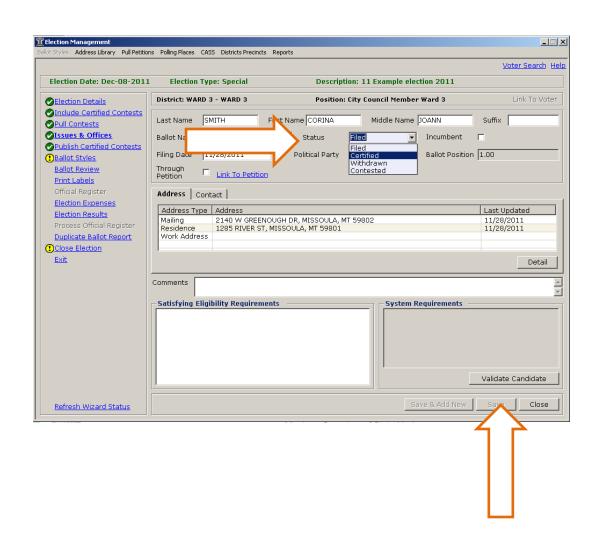
Certify Candidates

- Highlight the candidate to be certified.
- Click Details.



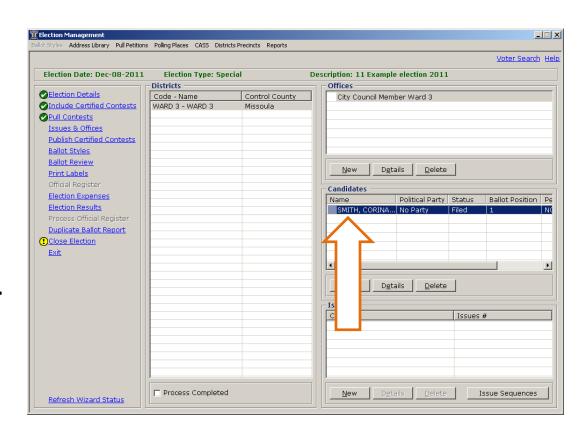
Certify Candidates

- In the <u>Status</u> field dropdown choose Certified.
- Click Save.



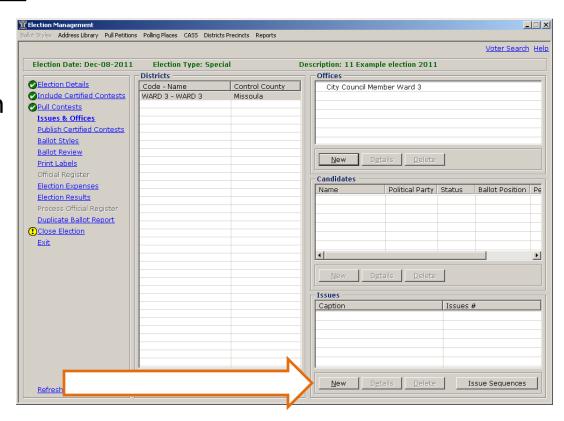
Certify Candidates

- The candidate is now certified.
- Repeat the previous steps for additional candidates as needed.



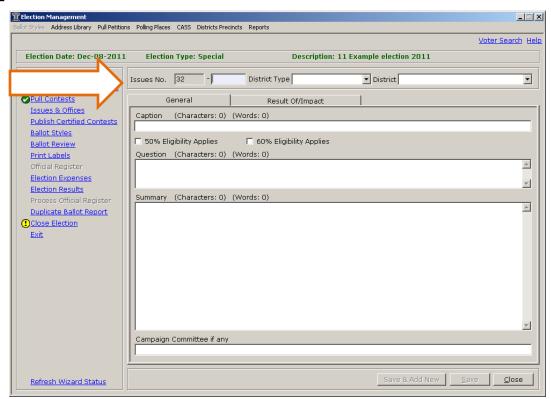
Creating New Issues

 Click the **New** button under Issues to add in a new issue to your election.



Creating New Issues

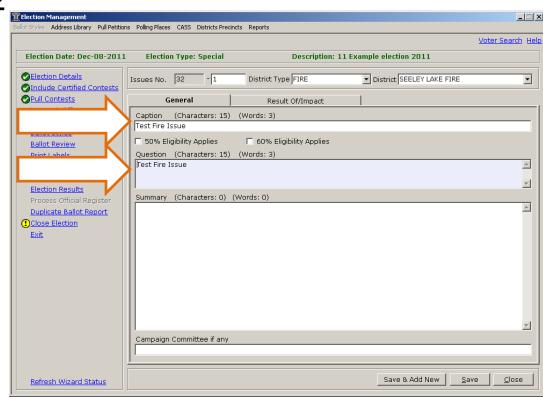
Enter a unique Issue
 Number and selected
 the District Type and
 District from the
 corresponding
 dropdown boxes.



Issues & Offices –

Creating New Issues

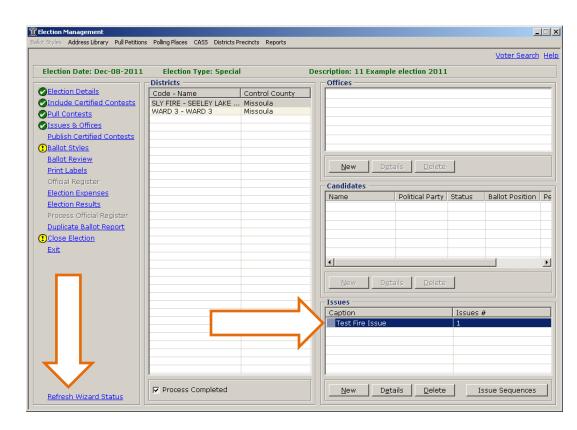
- Enter a <u>Caption</u> for the issue.
- Enter the <u>Question</u> wording for the issue.
- Verify all information is showing correctly and click Save.
- Click <u>Save & Add</u> new to continue adding additional Issues.



Issues & Offices –

Overview

- The new issue will show along with any other issues or contests you have added.
- Once you have finished adding all contests and issues check the <u>Process</u> <u>Completed</u> box.



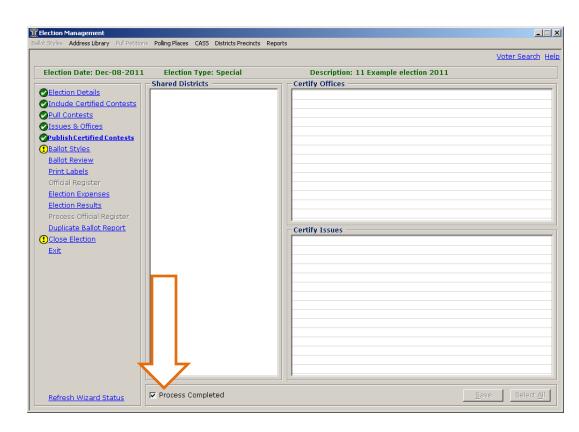
Refresh Wizard Status

Publish Certified Contests

Publish Certified Contests—

Overview

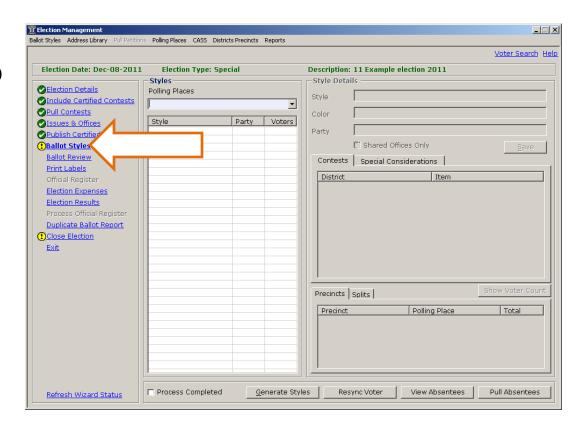
- The Publish Certified Contests screen allows you to share offices and issues you have entered with other counties that have shared districts.
- Check entries and click save to share them.
- Otherwise Check
 Process Completed



Refresh Wizard Status

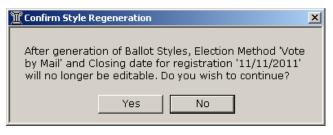
Generate Styles

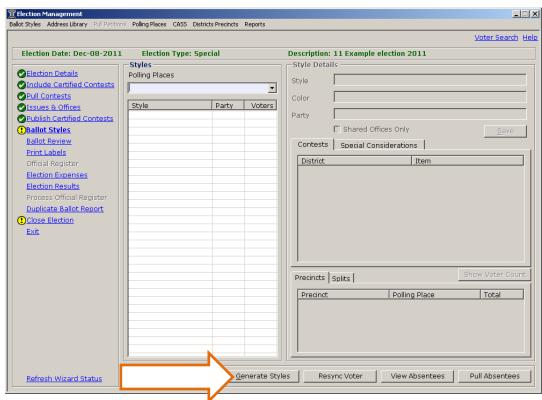
- The next step to setup your election is to Generate Ballot Styles.
- You will need to
 <u>Refresh Wizard Status</u>
 if you have not been doing it after each prior step.



Generate Styles

- Click the Generate
 Styles button to
 generate ballot styles.
- The following message will display, warning you that your election details will no longer be modifiable if you continue.

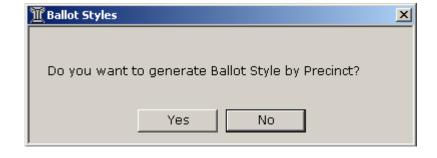




Click Yes when ready.

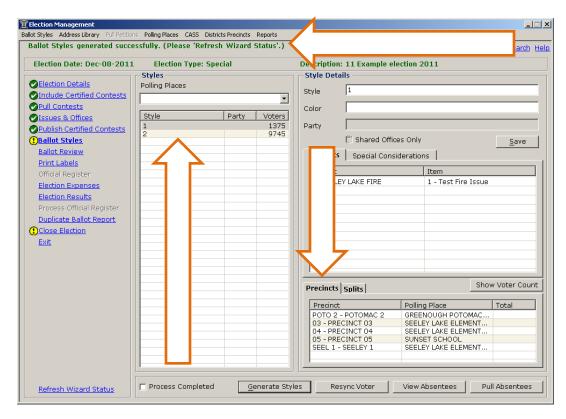
Generate Styles

- You will next be asked if you want to generate Ballot Style's by <u>Precinct</u>.
- If so click Yes.
- Clicking No will generate Ballot Style by <u>District</u>.



Generate Styles

- Newly generated
 Ballot Styles will be
 listed under styles.
- A confirmation will display at the top of the screen.
- Ballot styles will generate with a default number for a name

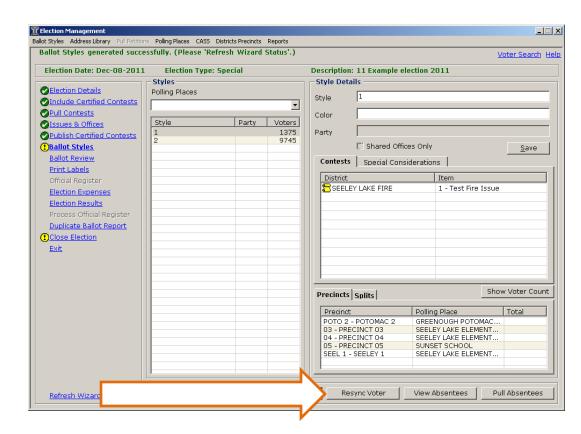


Default ballot style names do not correspond to their precinct number.

Refer to the precinct box to verify the ballot styles information.

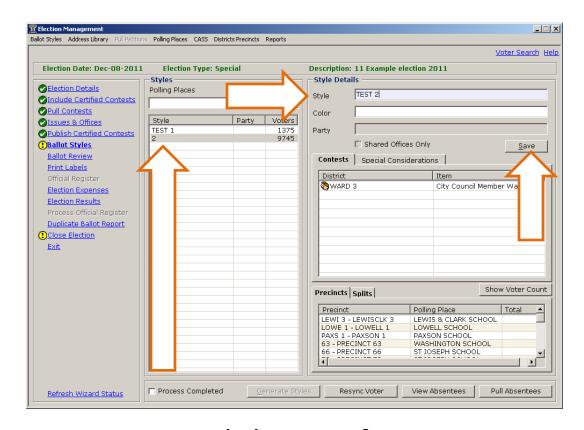
Resync Voter

- Clicking the Resync
 Voter buttons will
 cause MT Votes to repull in the voters
 encompassed by your ballot styles.
- Do not Resync voters
 if you have already
 printed and mailed
 labels, as this will
 invalidated the ballot
 ID's on the previous
 labels.



Generate Styles

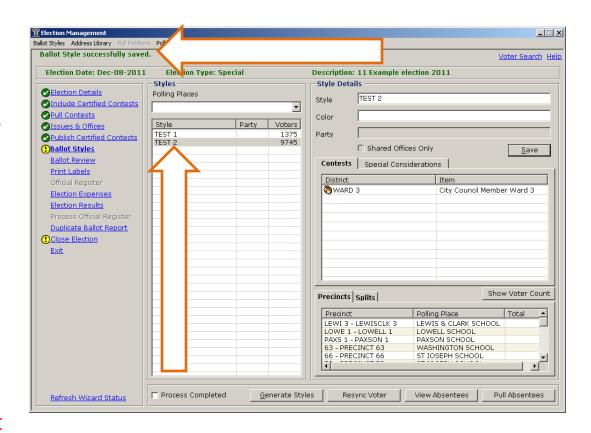
- Ballot Styles can be renamed so as to be more easily recognizable.
- Click on the Ballot
 Style you would like
 to rename and then
 enter a new name
 under Style Details.
- Click Save



 Be sure to click Save after changing each style name or your modifications will be lost.

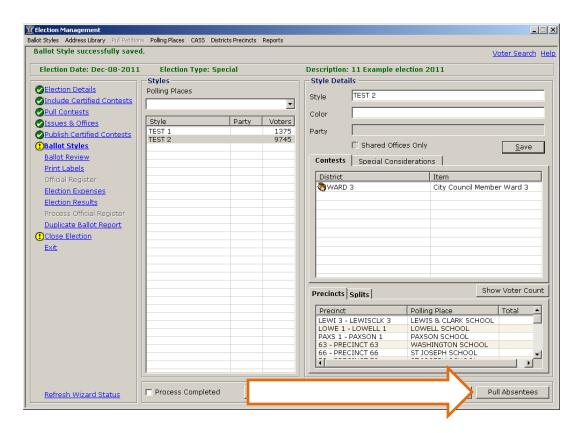
Generate Styles

- A confirmation
 message will display
 after each Ballot Style
 name is changed.
- The re-named ballot Styles will be listed under styles.
 - Once a name has been used for a ballot style it cannot be applied to an alternative ballot style.



Pull Absentees

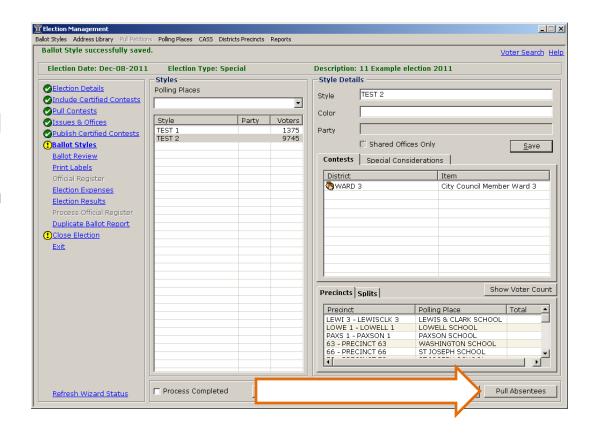
- Next you will need to pull Absentee's into the election.
- This button will have different functionality depending on whether you are setting up a <u>Poll</u> or <u>Vote-by-Mail</u> Election.



Pull Absentees

Poll Election

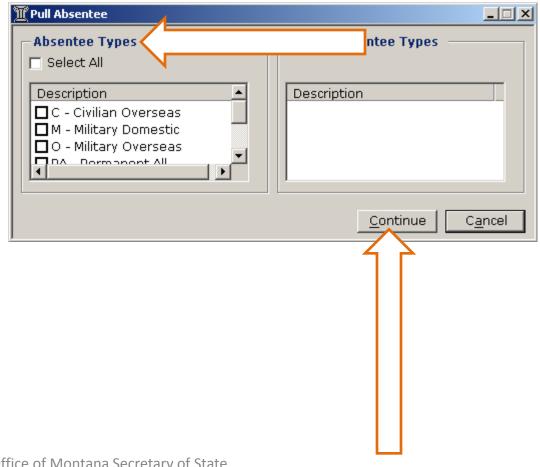
Clicking the Pull
 Absentees button will
 only pull voters with
 Absentee requests on
 file.



Pull Absentees

Poll Election

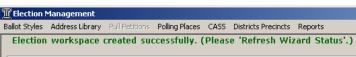
- A dialogue box will come up, allowing you to specify which absentee types you would like to pull.
- You can pull different types <u>individually</u> or <u>Select All</u>.
- Click Continue



Pull Absentees

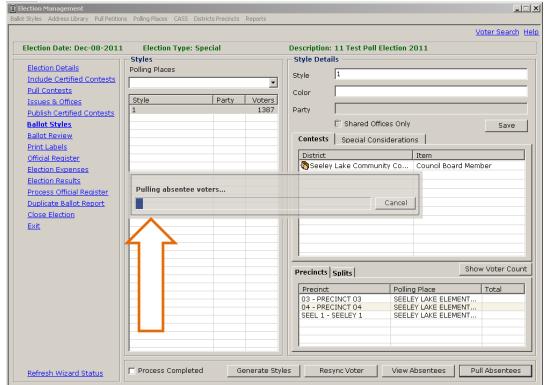
Poll Election

- Absentees will be pulled into the election.
- The following confirmation will display.





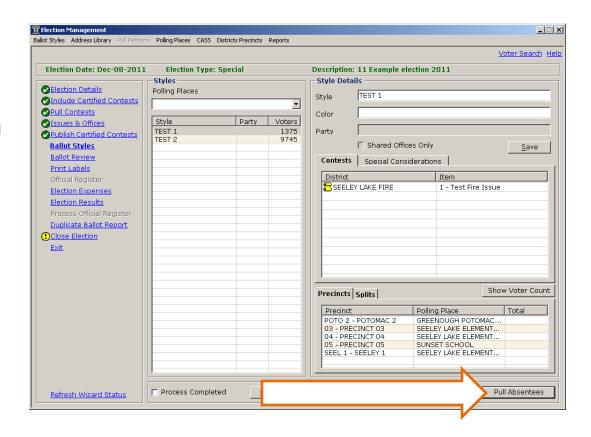
Check Process Completed.



Pull Absentees

Vote-By-Mail Election

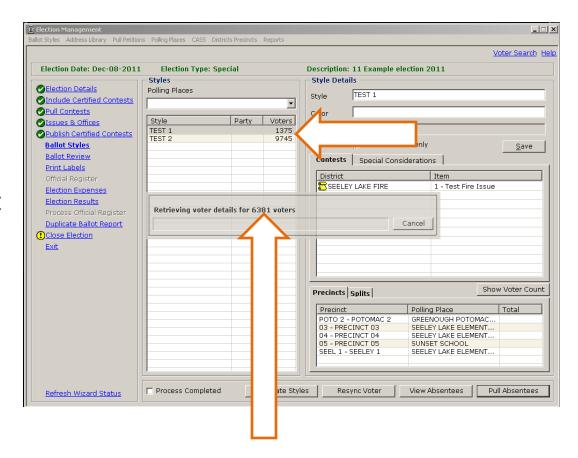
- Clicking the Pull
 Absentee button for a vote-by-mail election will pull in all active voters.
- Inactive voters will not be pulled into the mail ballot election.
- Click Pull Absentees



Pull Absentees

Vote-By-Mail Election

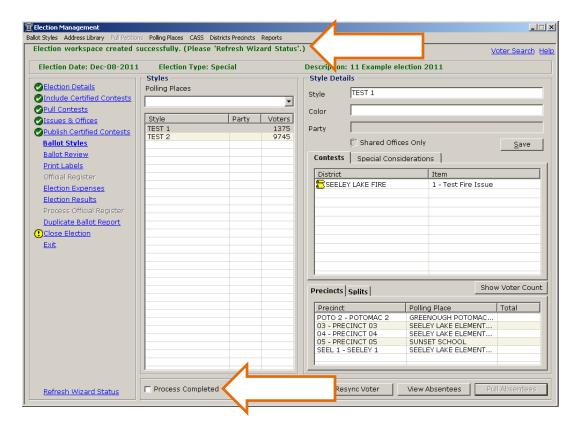
- Note that the Pulled Voter count does not match the totals indicated by the ballot styles.
- This is because the ballot styles include all active and inactive voters. Where as only active voters are pulled into the election.



Pull Absentees

Vote-By-Mail Election

- A confirmation
 message will display
 at the top of the
 screen.
- Check <u>Process</u>
 <u>Completed.</u>



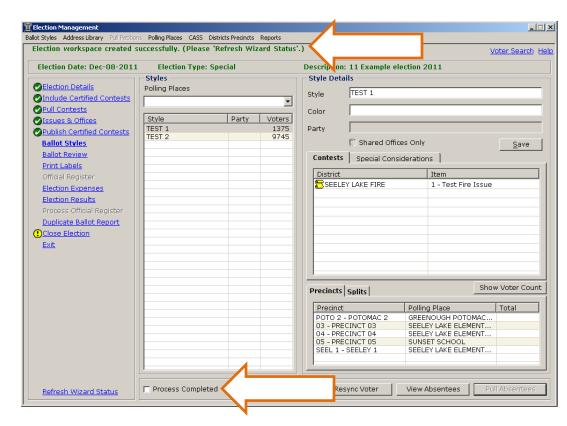
Refresh Wizard Status

Ballot Review

Ballot Review –

Overview

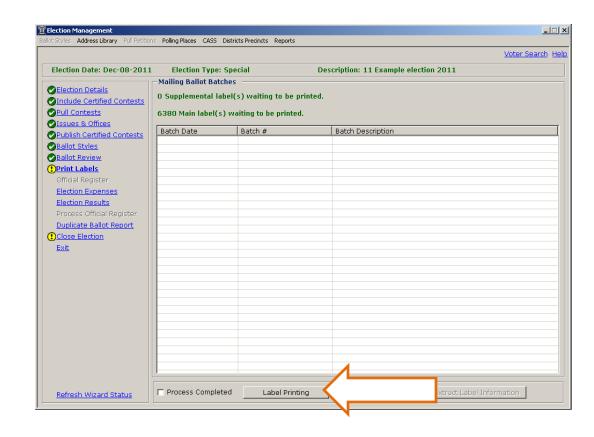
- The Ballot Review screen will list all issues and offices that have been setup in the election.
- Only certified
 Candidates will be displayed.
- After reviewing this screen check <u>Process</u> <u>Completed</u>.



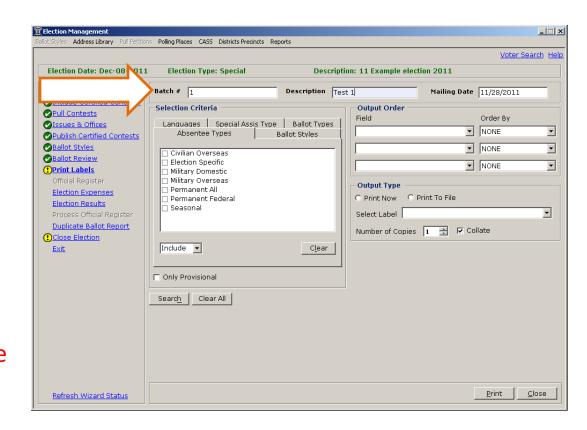
Refresh Wizard Status

Overview

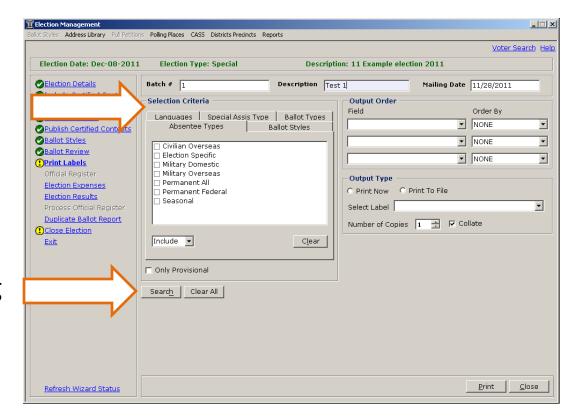
- The Print Labels screen functions the same for both Poll and Vote by Mail elections.
- Click Label Printing to begin



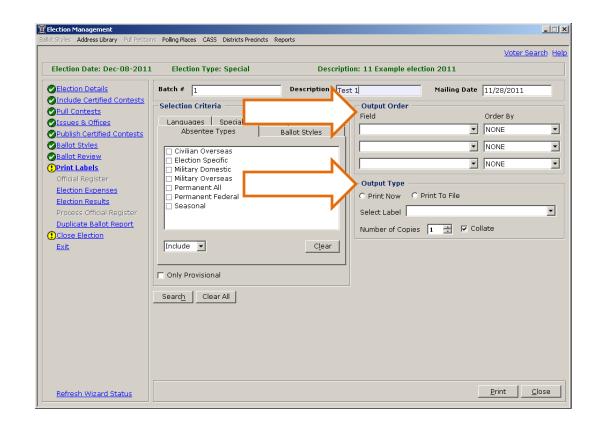
- Enter a Batch # and Description.
- The <u>Mailing Date</u> will default to the current system date.
 - This date can be changed and will be the recorded "sent date" that will display for ballots sent in this batch.



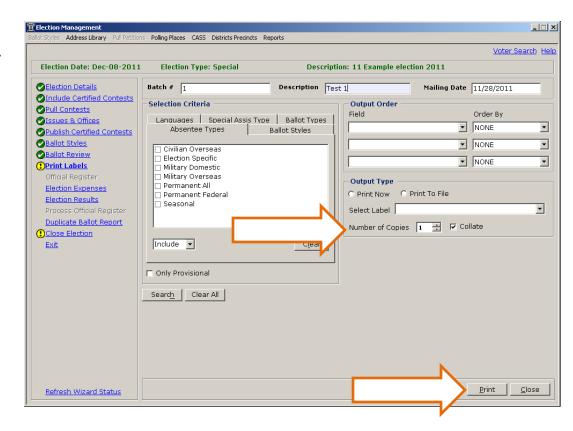
- Under Selection
 Criteria you can
 choose which label
 types to include in
 your batch.
- Not selecting anything will include all labels in the batch.
- The Search button will tell you how many labels will be printed.



- Under Output Order you can specify what sort order you would like your labels to have.
- Output Type allows you to specify print now or to file, and which label type you would like to use.



- Specify the number of copies you would like once you have entered Output Order and Type, and you have chosen the label type.
- Click Print



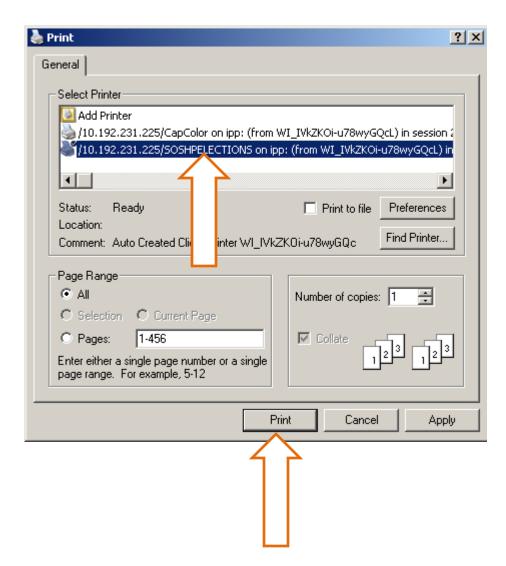
Label Printing

- A report will generate containing your labels.
- Verify that the correct label type was chosen.



Click Print

- Choose the printer you would like to print to.
- Click Print



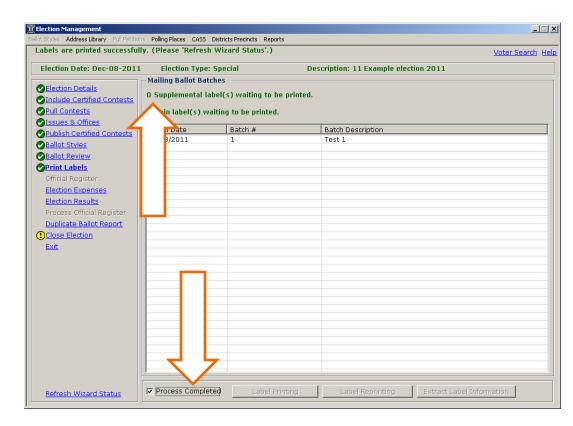
Label Printing

 Once the labels have printed click Close.



Overview

- If additional voters
 are registered after
 printing labels they
 will show up as
 Supplemental labels
 waiting to be printed.
- Once all labels have been printed and you will have no more check Process completed.



Refresh Wizard Status

Inactive Electors in a Vote-by-Mail election

Inactive Electors—

Overview

If an inactive elector requests a ballot, or mails in, or brings in a voter registration card (or other document listing the elector's current residence address, including but not limited to, a reactivation form) **before** the ballots are mailed, change their status to "Active" and send the person a ballot along with the rest of the mail ballots.

Inactive Electors—

Overview

If an inactive elector requests a ballot, or mails in, or brings in a voter registration card (or other document listing the elector's current residence address, including but not limited to, a reactivation form) after the day on which you mailed your ballots, change their status to "Active" and provide them with a ballot in person or by mail.

You do not need to have them fill out a Replacement/Late Ballot Request since they, by following 13-2-222, MCA, are activating their registration and are therefore automatically eligible for a ballot.

Inactive Electors—

Overview

AFTER Activating the elector -

- The system will ask if you want to resync.
 Select Yes.
- In Election Management/Print Labels, the label for this voter will be waiting for you to print.

Late and Late Transfer Registrants in a Vote-by-Mail election

Late and Late Transfer Registrants

 By law, a late or late transfer registrant must come into your office if the individual wishes to register after the close of regular registration.

Late and Late Transfer Registrants BEFORE Ballot Mailing

• If a late registrant comes in to register before the ballots are mailed, register them in the system and follow the procedures in 13-19-303, MCA.

 Allow them to vote in your office until noon the day before the ballots are mailed.

Final Steps for Handling Late and Transfer Registrants

- After late or transfer registration has been entered, system will ask if you want to resync. Select yes.
- Then go to Print Labels in Election Management, choose, and the system will display how many labels will be waiting to be printed for this election.

Required form

For Replacement/Late Ballot Request for Mail Ballot Election.

Check the Secretary of State's website for this form.

REPLACEMENT/LATE BALLOT REQUEST FOR MAIL BALLOT ELECTION 44.9.305, ARM, and 13-19-305, MCA

I,		, do	hereby request a re	eplacement or l	ate ballot for t	the mail ballot	
election to be held	: -2/	, 20	, in			County,	
Montana, for the followi	ng reason (check o	one):					
() I did not receive	the ballot mailed to	o me.					
() The ballot mailed							
() spoiled	() damaged						
() lost	() destroyed						
() I am a late or late received a ballot	transfer registrant for the election ref	who is regi erenced abo	istering after ballot ove.	ts have been ma	uled, and who	has not	
Note to election administra nailing or bringing in a vo county, including but not l eactivating, the elector is	oter registration card imited to a reactivat	d (or other d tion form) do	locument listing the oes <u>not</u> need to fill o	elector's curren	t residence ado	fress in your	
hereby certify, under pe	nalty of law, that t	he above in	formation is true a	and correct, and	that I underst	and attempting	
vote more than once in	any election is a v	riolation of	Montana election !	law.			
ndividual must sign and	acknowledge belov	w in the pre	sence of a Notary	Public or in the	presence of t	he Election	
dministrator or deputy i	f delivered in pers	on.					
Signature of elect	or:	·					
					1		
Address of elector	-						
			·				
TATE OF MONTANA)						
ounty of)						
n this		20	1				
n this day of nown to me or proved to m	e to be the nerces	zhose norra i	_, before me, person	ally appeared the	e above named	individual,	
she executed the same.	e to be the berson w	mose mame is	s subscribed to the a	bove deciaration	, and acknowle	aged to me that	
one encoured the stanc.							
			Notary Public f	Notary Public for the State of Montana			
			210mily 2 dolle 1		COLUMNIA		
			Printed Name of	of Notary Public			
SEA	IL .		Residing at				
			My Commissio	on Expires		, 20	
			Ву:				
				Denuty (if:			
				Deputy (II :	not notarized)		

Do not extend address ranges after you have printed labels. Duplicate ballots will be prepared for all electors in that address range!

If you have a new address you create a NEW address range for that one address until election is closed.

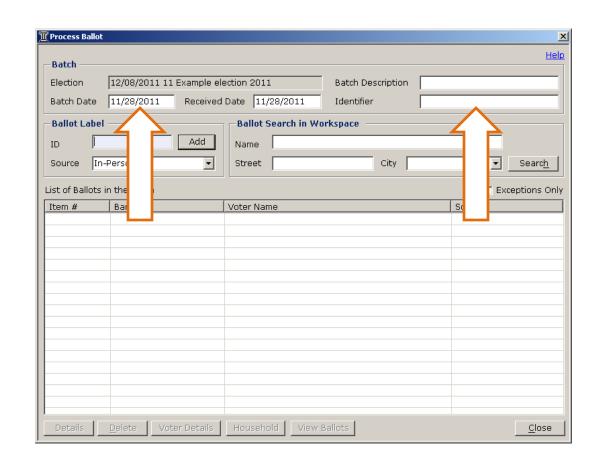
Overview

- The Ballot Processing screen will allow you to process Absentee and Vote-By-Mail ballots.
- Click <u>Ballot Processing</u> to begin.



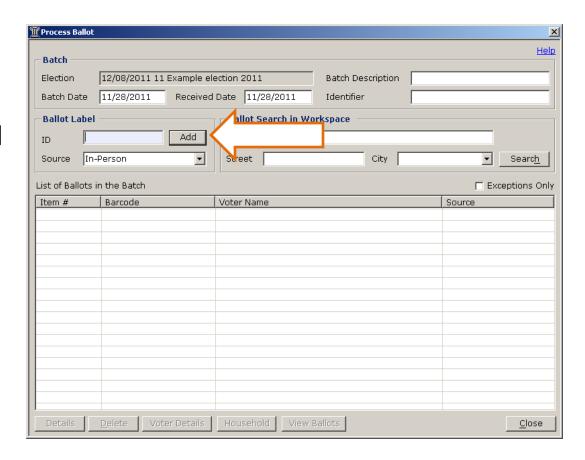
Overview

- Ensure the correct
 <u>Batch and Received</u>
 <u>Dates</u> are showing.
- Enter in a <u>Batch</u>
 <u>Description</u> and <u>Identifier</u>.



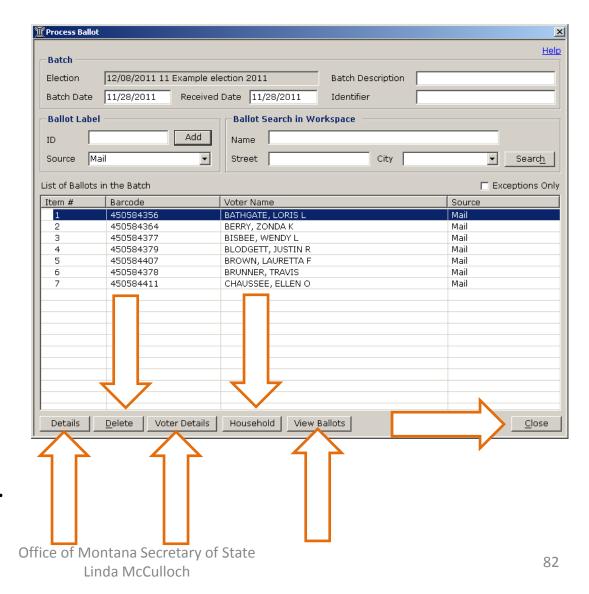
Creating a Ballot Batch

- Change the Ballot
 Label source to the
 source of the received
 ballots.
- Click in the ID Field.
- Scan Barcodes or Manually enter each Ballot ID and click Add.



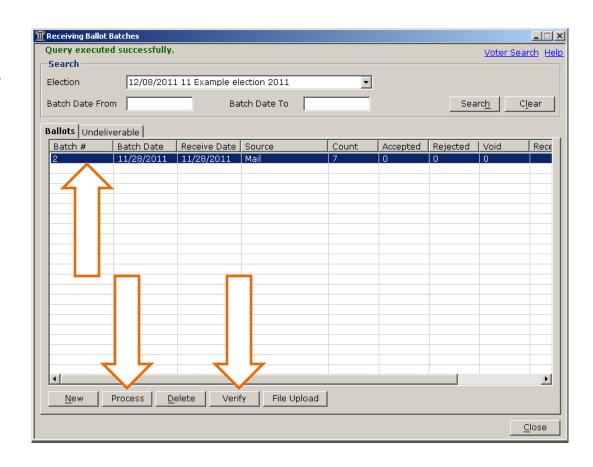
Process Ballots

- Once all ballots have been entered select an entry to:
 - View Ballot Details
 - Delete
 - View Voter Details
 - View Household Info
 - View Active Ballots
- Click Close when you have finished examining each entry.



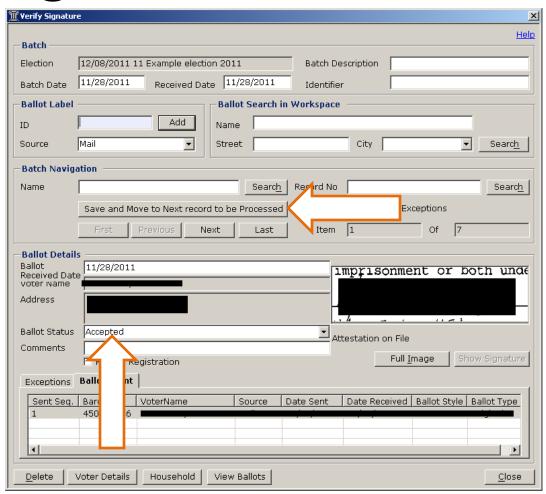
Verify Ballots

- The new batch will be displayed.
- Click process to add additional ballots to the batch.
- When ready highlight the desired batch and Click Verify to continue.



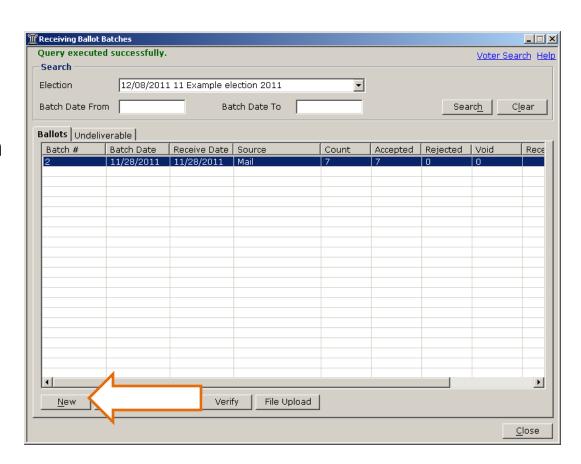
Verify Ballots

- Verify the displayed signature and enter a Ballot Status.
- Click <u>Save and move</u>
 <u>to Next record to be</u>
 <u>Processed</u> to
 continue.
- Repeat this process until you have verified all signatures.



Overview

- The completed batch will now be listed with no unprocessed ballots.
- Repeat the previous steps to process additional ballot batches.



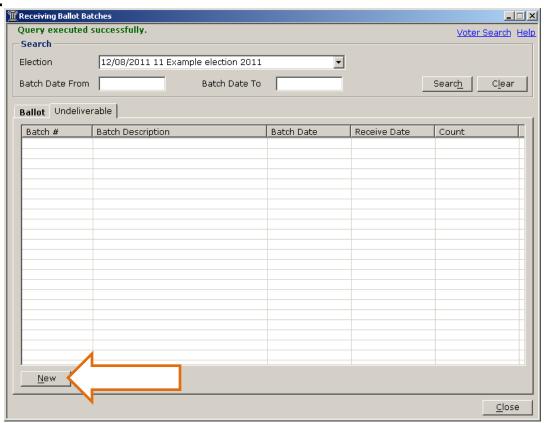
Undeliverable Ballots

Undeliverable Ballots

 Montana mail ballot law requires notifying the elector whose ballot was returned as undeliverable be sent an NVRA notice which can be forwarded, with prepaid postage. See <u>13-19-313</u> (4), MCA.

Undeliverable Ballots

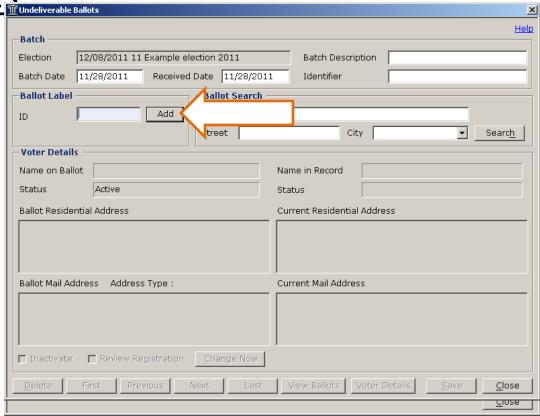
 Click New to create a new batch of undeliverable ballots.



Undeliverable Ballots

Undeliverable Ballots

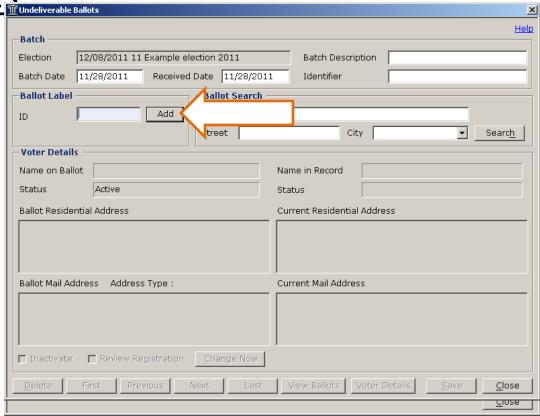
Click in the <u>ID field</u> and either <u>scan a</u>
 <u>ballots barcode</u> or manually enter the <u>ballot ID</u> and click
 <u>Add.</u>



Undeliverable Ballots

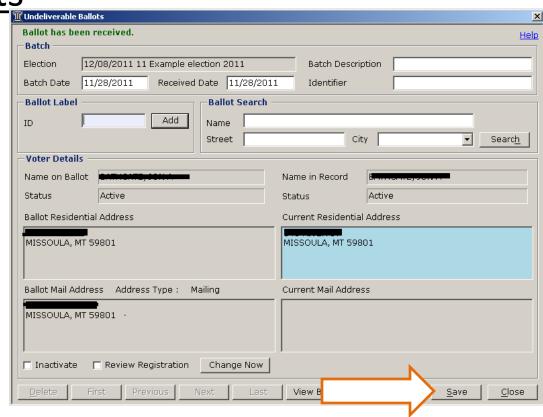
Undeliverable Ballots

Click in the <u>ID field</u> and either <u>scan a</u>
 <u>ballots barcode</u> or manually enter the <u>ballot ID</u> and click
 <u>Add.</u>



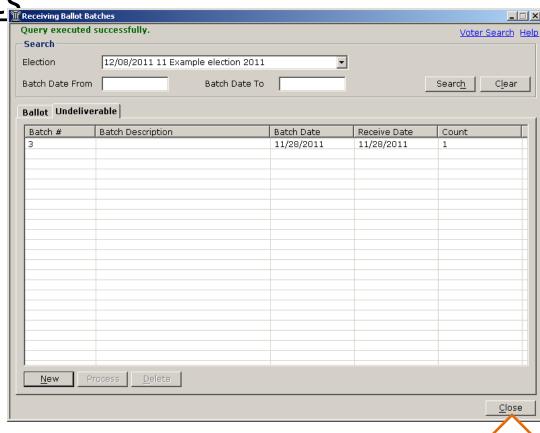
Undeliverable Ballots

- The Voter Details will display.
- Review displayed information.
- Click Save to store the undeliverable ballot record.



Undeliverable Ballots Receiving Ballot Ballots

- The new undeliverable ballot batch will be displayed.
- Follow the previous steps to add in additional undeliverable ballots.
- Close Ballot
 Processing when finished.

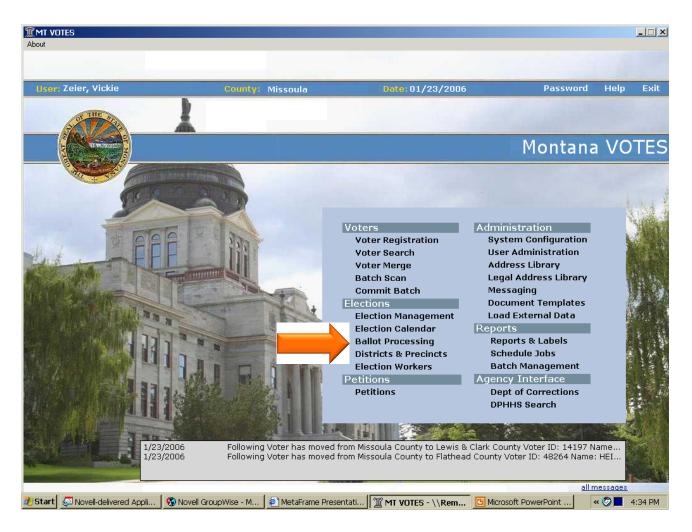


Releasing Undeliverable Ballots

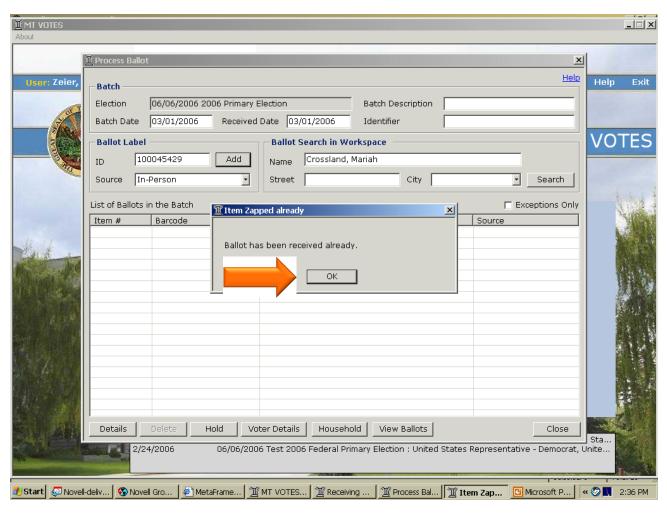
 Sometimes a ballot comes back undeliverable and a real person shows up in the office

Then the ballot must be released

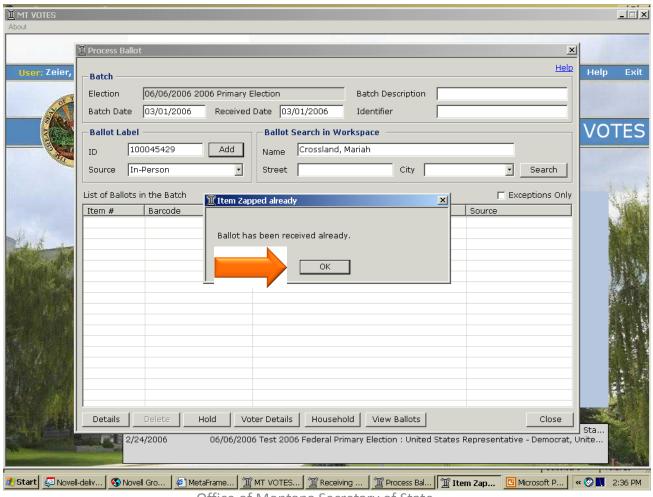
Click Ballot Processing



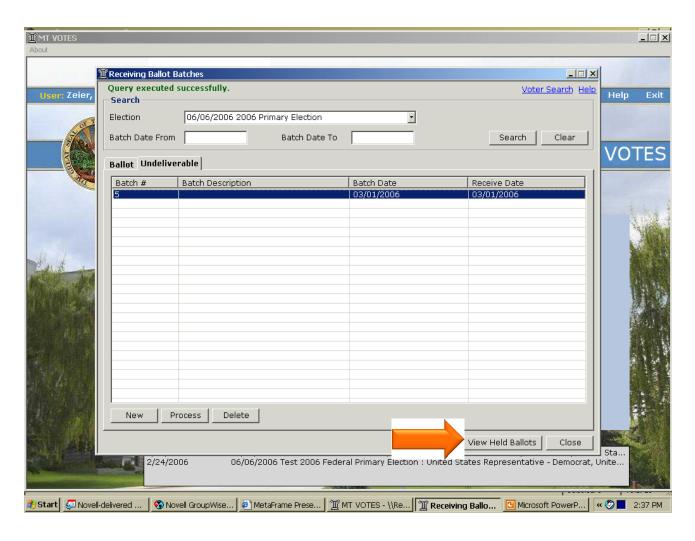
You will receive this message: Ballot has been received already



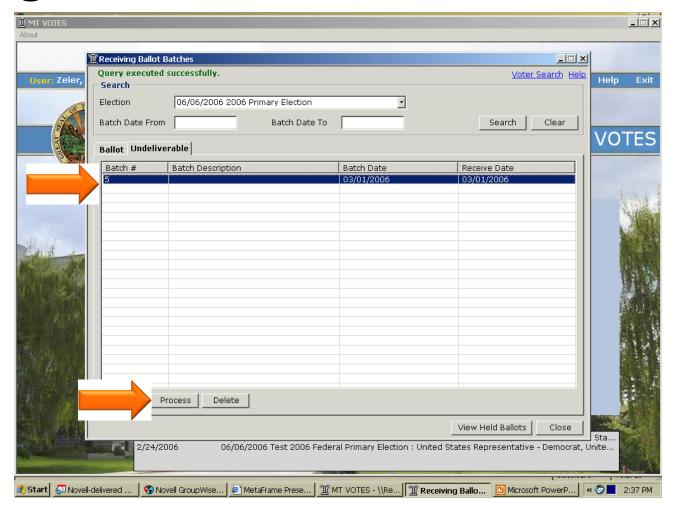
Click OK and you will be taken to the Receiving Ballot Batches screen



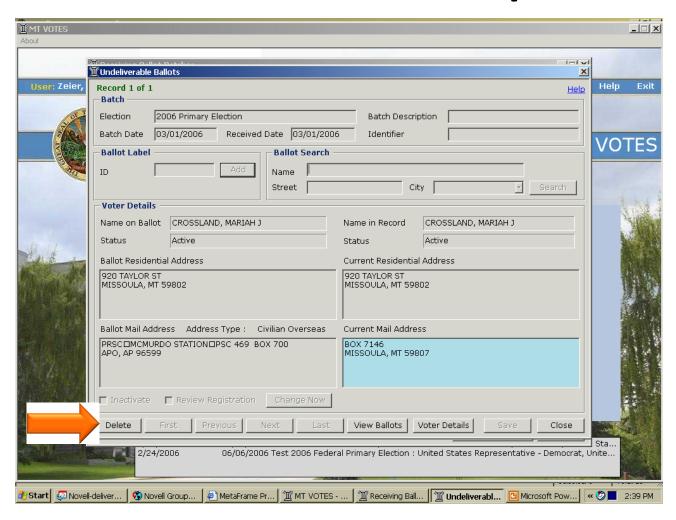
Click on View Held Ballots



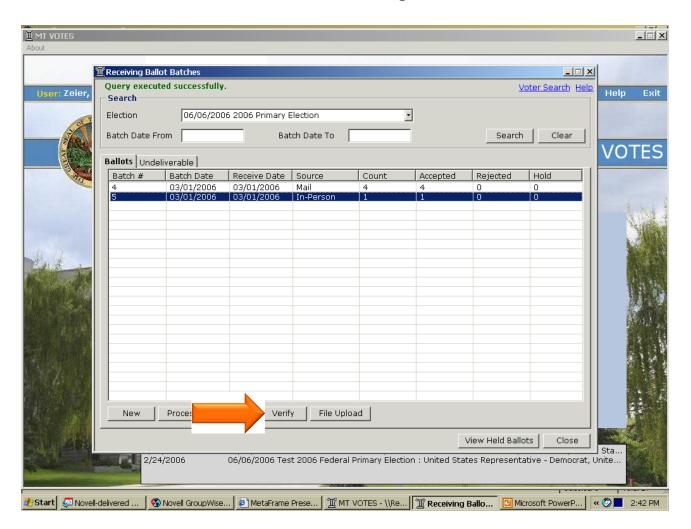
Highlight the batch and click Process



Delete the voter from the Undeliverable Ballots so the ballot can be processed



Verify and save. Then the ballot will be listed as Accepted

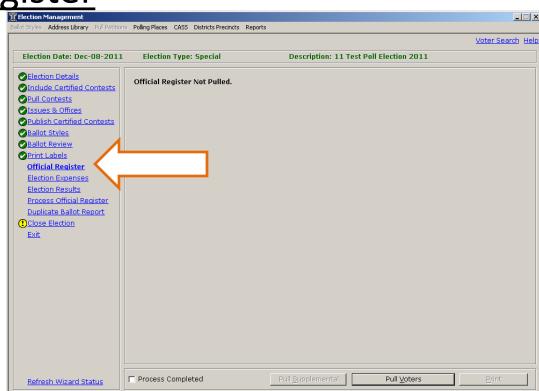


Official Register

Official Register-

Generate Official Register

- The <u>Official Register</u> is only available for Poll elections.
- Click **Pull Voters** to begin.

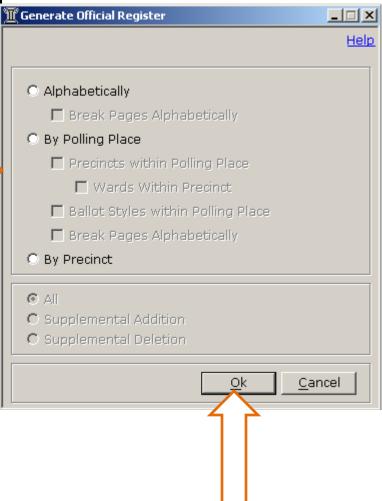


Official Register—

Generate Official Register

 The <u>Generate Official</u> <u>Register</u> screen will appear.

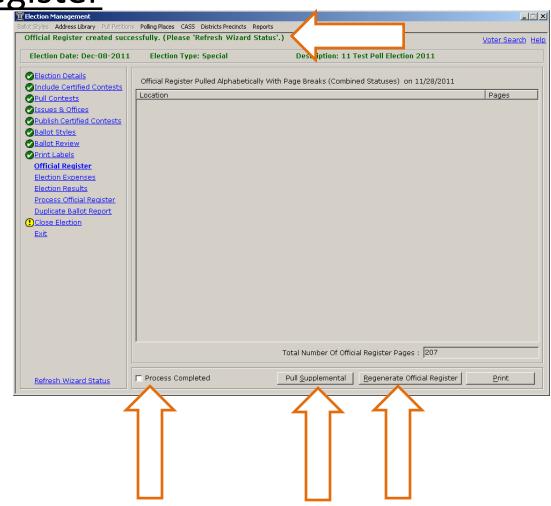
 Choose which sort order options you would like and click
 OK.



Official Register-

Generate Official Register

- A confirmation message will display.
- The register can be regenerated or you can pull a supplemental register by clicking the buttons below.
- Once the register has been printed check
 Process Completed.

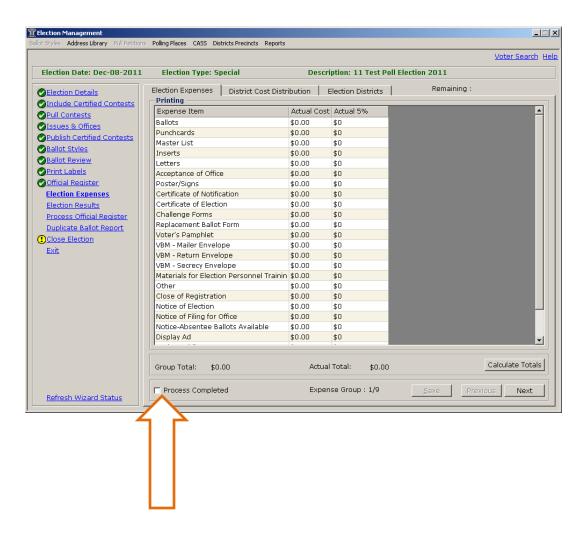


Election Expenses

Election Expenses–

Overview

- The Election Expense screen can be used to track expenses for your election.
- This screen is not required to close your election.
- Click <u>Process</u>
 <u>Completed</u> when you are finished with this screen.

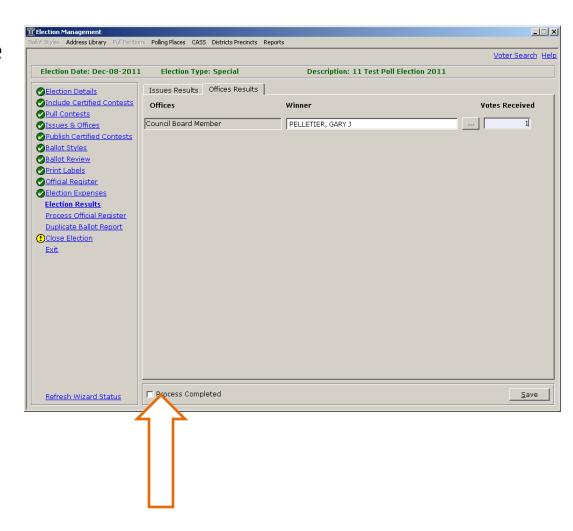


Election Results

Election Results—

Overview

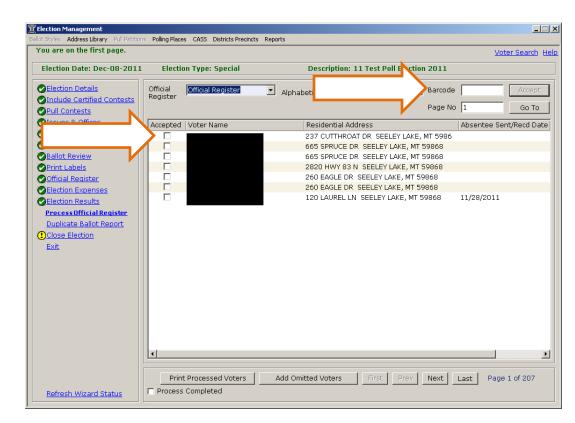
- Election results can be manually entered into this screen.
- Using this screen will store this information in MT Votes for future reference.
- This screen is not required to close your election.
- Click process complete once results have been entered.



Process Official Register

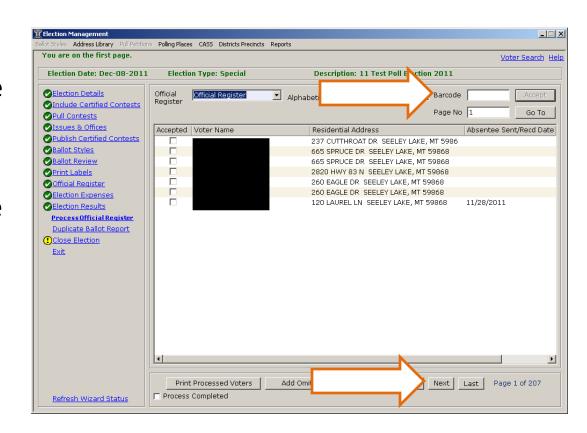
Process Official Register—

- Accepted ballots can be indicated manually by checking the box next to each voters name.
- To use the barcode scanner click in the barcode field and scan the corresponding barcode for a voter on that page.



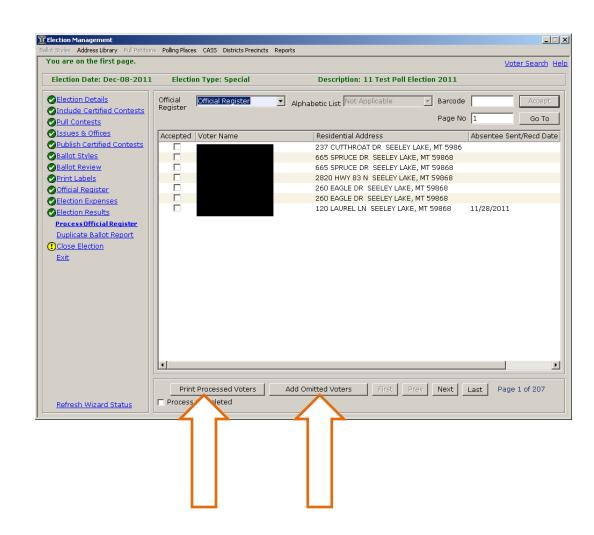
Process Official Register–

- You can only scan barcodes for the page you are on.
- Click next to go to the next page and begin scanning barcodes again.



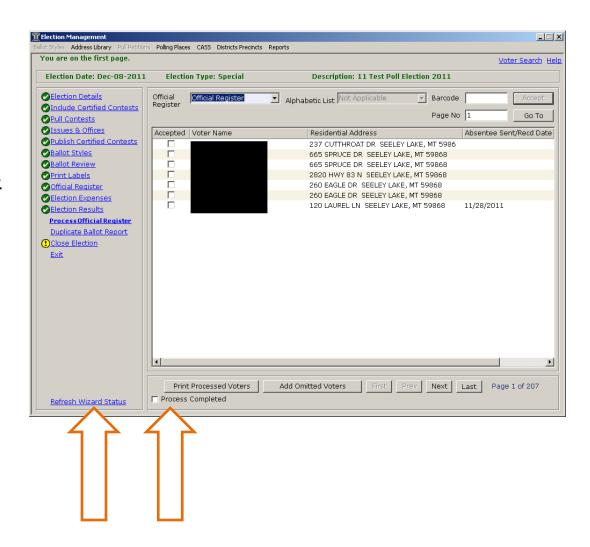
Process Official Register—

- Once you have finished Processing the official register you can print a list of processed voters.
- Clicking <u>Add Omitted</u>
 <u>Voters</u> will allow you
 to add in voters
 missing from the
 official register.



Process Official Register–

- Check <u>Process</u>
 Completed.
- Refresh Wizard Status



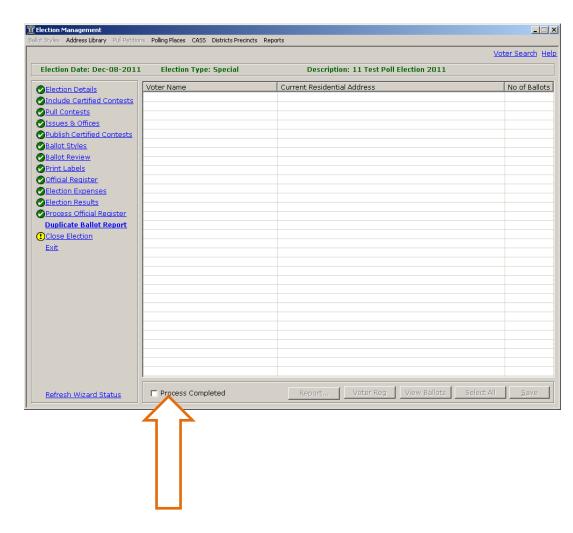
Duplicate Ballot Report

Purpose of the Duplicate Ballot Report

- Determine whether any voters intentionally voted more than once.
- After you review the voter record and ballot information for each voter, mark those voters believed to exhibit fraudulent behavior.
- Generate a report to send to the County Attorney for further investigation.

Duplicate Ballot Report-

- This screen will list any voters that have received an additional ballot for any reason.
- This includes reissued or replacement ballots.
- Once you have reviewed this screen check <u>Process</u> <u>Completed.</u>



Close Election

Requirements to Close and Election

An election can only be closed once the following has been done:

- All ballot labels have been printed
- Mail and Absentee Ballots have been processed
- Provisional Ballots have been processed
- The Official Register has been processed

Close Election—

- This screen will allow you to close an open election or re-open a closed election.
- Click the <u>Post History</u> for <u>Processed Voters</u> and <u>Close Election</u> to continue.

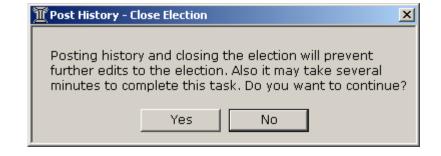


Close Election—

Overview

- A reminder message will come up prompting you to review the Duplicate Ballot Report if you have not done so.
- You will be asked to confirm that you would like to close the election.

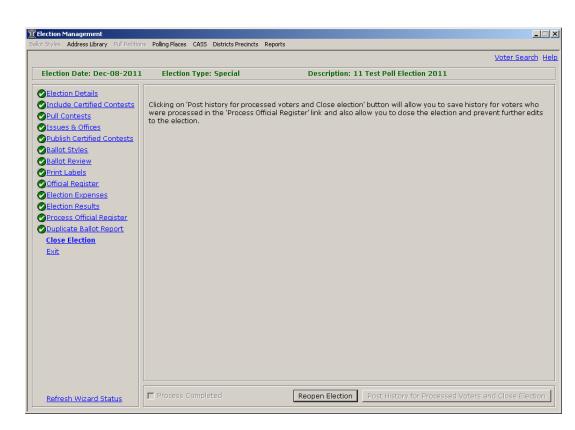




Click Yes.

Close Election—

- The election is now closed.
- To re-open the election click Reopen Election.
- Be sure to re-close the election as soon as you have made any changes.



Reports

Election Management– Available reports

BP-011: Ballot Batches Receiving

BP-012: Voter Listing By Ballot Style

BP-013: Undeliverable Ballots

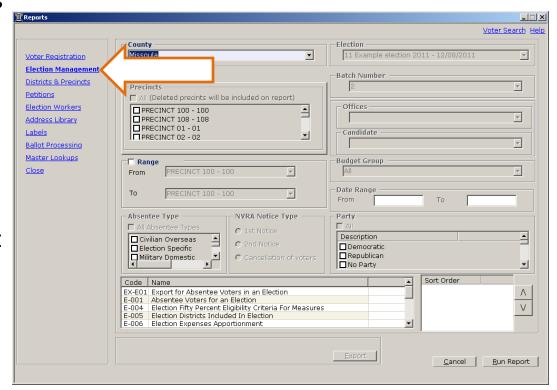
BP-020: Duplicate Ballots Report

BP-034: Returned Ballots in

Date Range

EX-BP1: Voter Master Listing by

Election



As always, please feel free to contact the Help Desk, at 1-866-541-6767, with any further questions you have.

